

Assistant Director for Operations

27 May 1954

Chief, Foreign Documents Division

Suggestion for the Consolidation of German Press
Scrutiny Activities

1. Searching a foreign newspaper for information satisfying one type of requirement requires almost as much effort as monitoring the same publication against the needs of a number of consumers.

2. The Frankfurt Bureau as it is now organized can with little additional effort exploit the German press on a regular basis against the requirements of the IAC agencies, without in any way curtailing its current program. [] is thoroughly trained and experienced in press exploitation and, we believe, can adjust the Bureau's effort easily and without jeopardizing security so as to include such exploitation without disturbing the promptness and thoroughness of its current work for the Deputy Director for Plans.

50X1

3. If agreement can be reached which will allow full German press exploitation in Frankfurt, FDD can discontinue similar exploitation in Washington. This will release manpower here that can be applied against pressing demands of the DD/P and DD/I offices. The aid to DD/P offices should be immediately apparent as their needs for translation service in German are heavier than in any other language. On several occasions recently FDD has been compelled to reject their German translation requests due to the complete absorption of our German translation facilities.

4. Review of the German press in Frankfurt would be more timely than could be provided from Washington, and its inauguration would result in a far more economic and effective use of manpower to the benefit of both the DD/P and DD/I offices. I therefore earnestly recommend that consideration be given to such an operational adjustment.

J. J. BAGNALL

CONFIDENTIAL